

CRUSHED TO DEATH.

Part of the Deck of a Barge Falls on a Merry Making Party During a Storm—Fourteen Killed and Many Seriously Hurt.

COLD SPRING HARBOR, L. I., Aug. 13.—A terrible disaster occurred here yesterday afternoon, by which fourteen persons—eight women, four children and two men—lost their lives.

The steamer Crystal Stream, with the barge Republic in tow, and having aboard about 300 adults and as many children, on an excursion of the employees of Theodore Kayser, dry goods dealer, of Graham avenue, Brooklyn, arrived at the Cold Harbor dock about 2 o'clock, having left South Sixth street, Brooklyn, at 10:30 in the morning. About 2:30 o'clock the last whistles for all to get aboard were blown by the steamer and at 2:45 everybody was ready to start. The larger portion of the excursionists were on the barge, where the younger people were dancing. Just then some heavy clouds covered the sky; then came a squall, the wind driving everything before it.

The boat hands, anticipating a shower, had let down the canvas curtains which are attached to the hurricane deck of the barge and fastened them down to the port side. This prevented the wind from blowing through, and as one strong gust struck the barge it lifted the starboard side of the hurricane deck clear from its fastenings and supports, and forced it and the posts and partitions in the center over the port side. As it pushed over, the end of the deck nearest the dock to which the barge was fastened dropped down upon hundreds of women and children who had crowded over to that side of the barge in an effort to escape. In a moment the air was rent with shrieks and agonizing cries of the poor victims whose lives were being crushed out and limbs broken.

The officers, deck-hands and other men on the steamer lost no time in reaching the barge and doing all in their power to rescue all whom they could from the wreck, and the fallen deck was raised sufficiently to allow all those who were alive and uninjured to crawl out and the injured to be assisted from the barge.

It had been hoped that none had been killed, but the lifeless bodies of fourteen were seen to be lying near the gunwale. All had had the life crushed out of them by being caught between the end of the deck and the guard rails. Women and children and even strong men wept piteously as they looked upon the dead or dying. Of the dead bodies those who were recognized were as follows:

Katie Kautze, 4 years; William Hoffman, captain of the Crystal Stream; Robert Sculler, pilot of the barge; Amelia Landgraff, Mary Schaff, Minnie Schullen, Annie Volz, Emilia Wagner, Emma Weil, Mrs. Pauline Prinz, Mrs. Anthony Lepetinger, Minnie Goetz, Lizzie Schamant, 9 years old; Louis Kurtze. Among the injured are: Charles Held, arm broken and other bruises; Mrs. Henry Isselman, foot broken and bruises; Mrs. Zimmerman, 56 years old, seriously hurt in the chest and side of head. It is feared that her injuries will prove fatal. She was taken home by her daughter.

The wounded were carefully carried aboard of the Crystal Stream, which conveyed them around to Oyster Bay village, a distance of six miles, where they were attended by physicians. In the meantime arrangements were being made by the committee of the excursionists to Brooklyn. A number took the train which left Oyster Bay at 6 o'clock. Others, among them some of the most seriously injured, remained on the Crystal Stream, which left here for Brooklyn at about 7:30 o'clock. The bodies of the fourteen dead were laid in a row on the deck of the ill-fated barge and were covered with tarpaulin to await the arrival of the coroner from Huntington.

The place where the disaster occurred is at the head of Cold Spring harbor, not far from Laurelton, and is a favorite picnic ground. The falling of the deck of the barge and the sad results that followed are, it is said, due entirely to the rotten condition of the supports.

The news of the accidents had preceded the train's arrival and Brooklyn was besieged by a crowd of not less than 2,000 people who were friends or relatives of those who had gone away on the excursion in the morning. Everyone was asking those who left the train whether those belonging to them had escaped. Others, mostly men, looking for wives and children, were crying as they asked for their children, whom they had heard were killed or injured.

A "BLIND TIGER."

Georgia Legislators Placed in a Very Peculiar Light.

ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 13.—A lively sensation in the shape of "blind tiger" was unearched in the state capitol yesterday morning when the chief of police of this city with two detectives arrested Peter McMichael, porter of the state senate, for selling liquor without a license. The chief of police states that he has evidence conclusively proving that McMichael, who is a negro, had a large trade with members of the assembly. The members of the house are very indignant and the matter has created great excitement. Gov. North gave the chief of police authority to make a raid in the anteroom where the whisky was sold. The detectives found fourteen bottles of whisky and a lot of beer.

THE HEAT.

Little Relief From the Intense Heat—The Death Rate Increasing.

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—At 8 o'clock yesterday morning the temperature was 79 degrees, at 10 o'clock it was 85 degrees. The thermometer at 1 o'clock in the afternoon registered 93 degrees. On the shady side of the street there was such a crowd of pedestrians that but little air circulated there. In consequence it was stifling on the shady side of the street and too hot to walk on the side where the sun shone. With the exception of the monster buildings down town and the biggest of the flats up town, every structure in town was thoroughly heated up before noon. Even on the roofs there was but little relief to be obtained because of the absence of a breeze that was worthy the name. Nor were the roofs even cool enough to either sit or stand on. Buckets of water had to be thrown on them, and even when that had been done the roofs were warm and uncomfortable. That meant that but few of the dwellers in the tenements got any rest.

By the seashore at Coney Island in the afternoon the mercury in the shade stood at 93 degrees, one degree higher than on Monday.

On the business streets, particularly along those streets where the horse cars run, it was pitiful to see the sufferings of the horses. Horses attached to the cars suffered the most. In a great many instances they were barely able to drag one foot after the other, though frequent changes were made at short intervals.

Many of those who lived within half a mile of the docks went there early in the evening and remained until early in the morning.

During the twenty-four hours ending at midnight, there have been forty cases of heat prostration in this city all of which have proved fatal.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 12.—Philadelphia led all the cities of the United States Monday in the degrees of heat attained, the mercury standing at 97. The thermometer at 5 o'clock yesterday morning registered 80, two degrees higher than at the same hour the previous day. As the day advanced the heat increased, and at 3 o'clock in the afternoon the thermometers were standing at 95 degrees.

WAUKESHA, WIS., Aug. 12.—Yesterday has been the hottest day in this town in its history. The mercury registered 103 at noon in the shade. Cases of farm hands overcome by the heat are reported from Brooklyn, and a French girl became prostrated in the cotton mill. Crops are burning up.

JEWETT CITY, CONN., Aug. 12.—Yesterday was the hottest in ten years, the mills being compelled to stop by the heat. Farm hands and other outdoor laborers have been obliged to seek shady places or melt in the sun.

PLAINFIELD, CONN., Aug. 12.—The thermometer registered 104 in the shade at noon yesterday, and farm hands were compelled to stop work.

EUROPE'S CROPS.

Small Improvements Reported in One or Two Directions.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—Consular reports received here yesterday state that heavy rains have caused great havoc in most parts of the German empire. The official report of July makes mention of an improvement in conditions since April but holds forth no promise of average crops. Rye, which is seriously deficient, has improved. Wheat has made some progress but cannot reach an average.

Reports from Austria-Hungary show that the cereal crops will this year be under the average. It is not expected that wheat can touch the high figures of last year or fall as low as in 1889. Pending the official report the yield is estimated by the trade at 65,000,000 hundred weight, or 30 per cent. less than in 1889 and 20 per cent. less than last year, while the rye crop is the worst almost ever known, some of the estimates placing it at 40 per cent. less than last year. Barley is an average and oats above an average.

In Italy the outlook continues good for nearly all crops. The wheat crop, which is nearly finished, has been satisfactory—about an average both in quantity and quality.

The Spanish crops did not suffer so much as was expected and the later reports from many districts are quite favorable. The yield of the peninsula, however, will be at least 15 per cent. under the average.

Heavy rains and thunderstorms have been general over France during the last week. The reports of the first threshing in the south are stated to be disappointing and much less than was expected for what was known to be a bad crop. The heavy yield in districts of the center and north have suffered from the late weather and the condition may be said to be worse than July. Rye has improved somewhat and barley and oats promise well.

The Russian reports still continue contradictory and doubtful. This, however, touches only the question of comparative shortage, as it is agreed that the wheat yield will be below the average about 20 per cent. The rye crop is exceedingly deficient and for the first time known the prices of wheat and rye have been at the same level, indicating as no other fact could anticipate failure of the rye fields. Barley has improved the agricultural prospects.

In India the threatened famine has been arrested by timely heavy rains in most of the provinces.

WIND AND HEAT.

A Severe Windstorm Visits Iowa, Doing a Great Amount of Damage. But No Loss of Life Reported—Intense Heat in New York City and Other Places—Many Deaths and Prostrations—Crops Ruined by Drought.

OTTUMWA, Ia., Aug. 11.—A heavy wind of cyclonic proportions yesterday afternoon was the end of the terrific heat of the past two days and Humeston, Corydon, Centerville, Ottumwa, Agency and other towns lay in the path, with more or less damage to each. At Humeston cars were blown from the track of the Keokuk & Western road, the round house was demolished, houses were unroofed and small outbuildings destroyed. Trees were uprooted and oats and wheat stacks were scattered in every direction. Fields of grain and corn were prostrated, creating great loss. At Corydon the large court house was unroofed and the county offices damaged. The Methodist church was demolished and the depot blown down, while crops and small buildings shared the same fate as at other points. At Ottumwa the clouds were so threatening that many people sought safety in cellars, and it was feared the coal palace would be destroyed. The gale swept the roof off three stores and the Q round house, while smaller buildings suffered likewise. The coal palace tower was twisted, the windows blown in and the scaffolding thrown across the telegraph and telephone wires. Large trees were twisted or uprooted like corn stalks and at Frankfort they were blown down profusely. No persons are reported killed.

A terrific wind, accompanied by rain and hail, passed over Decatur county about noon yesterday. It was the worst storm ever known in that part of the state, and the damage is great. Crops over a wide tract of territory are destroyed. Trees were prostrated and buildings destroyed. So far as known no lives were lost.

AS IN A FURNACE.
NEW YORK, Aug. 11.—New York yesterday was a furnace seven times heated. This has been the third day of the heated term in this city and the hottest of the three, with no prospects of a change. According to the probabilities as furnished by the local forecast office the mercury bids fair to touch the 100 mark to-day.

Nothing like it has been recorded at this time in the year for nearly twenty years, and a continuance during the week means an enormous increase of mortality, especially in the crowded tenement districts. Several deaths have occurred and many more victims are in a precarious condition.

WHEAT SHRIVELED.
ST. PAUL, MINN., Aug. 11.—Last night's weather and crop reports from North Dakota indicate that at least twelve counties of that state have been very seriously injured. The wheat along the Manitoba border was just in the milk, two weeks from harvest, and the intense heat is said to have blistered and shriveled it to such an extent as to ruin a large part of it and render the remainder of grade. The country west of Bismarck is said not to have suffered, as also that along the Red river in Minnesota and Dakota. A slight shrinkage from blight and rust is expected in Polk, Otter Tail and Wilkins counties in Minnesota.

A TERRIBLE DROUGHT.
PLAINFIELD, CONN., Aug. 11.—Yesterday was one of the hottest in years, and the drought is something startling. All the late crops are burning up in the ground and early ones have ripened by the drought so quickly that they are badly dwarfed. The river, ponds and other mill streams are lower than for years. Ashland, Jewett City, Clayville, Flavelle, Central Valley and other places have been compelled to stop their mills for want of water. All through the valley of the Yantic, Quinebaugh and Shetucket rivers mills are idle. Pachaug lake that covers 14,000 acres is dry, and unless rain comes soon the loss to crops and in wages will be great.

HOT WEATHER AT MANY POINTS.
WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 11.—At Toledo the highest temperature yesterday was 95 degrees, equal to any previous record; Harrisburg 92, above any former record by 4 degrees; Baltimore 94, within 1 degree; Philadelphia 96 degrees, within 2 degrees; Norfolk, Lynchburg and Columbus 94 degrees, within 4 degrees; Sandusky 94, Albany 90, within 3 degrees; Boston 90, within 6 degrees of any former record.

The warm wave over northern Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin has been cooled by a fall at Chicago of 14 degrees; Milwaukee 12 degrees, Keokuk 10 degrees; Manistee 8 degrees. At St. Louis the temperature reached the same figure as Sunday—95 degrees.

AT CHICAGO.
CHICAGO, Aug. 11.—Yesterday was the hottest of the season here, the temperature reaching an altitude of 100 degrees at various points in the city at midday. There was a brisk breeze, but it seemed to come from a furnace. A number of sunstrokes were reported, two of which were fatal and had it been a working day, the list of casualties would undoubtedly have been very large.

AT CINCINNATI.
CINCINNATI, Aug. 11.—Yesterday was the hottest this year in Cincinnati. The temperature during the hottest part of the day ranged from 92 to 94.5 degrees and the mean temperature was about 82. No prostrations were reported. Only five have occurred this summer, all of these during the first week of July.

THE NEW COMMANDER.

Capt. John Palmer, of New York, Elected Commander-in-Chief of the G. A. R.—No New Department for Colored Veterans—Other Organizations.

DETROIT, Mich., Aug. 7.—While the delegates to the G. A. R. encampment were getting together yesterday for the second day's session, it was apparent that the chief bone of contention of the silver anniversary—the color line imbroglio—was not destined to be disposed of as amicably as had been anticipated. The recommendation of the commander-in-chief in favor of the creation of a provisional department for the colored veterans has met with a storm of opposition from unexpected quarters, and after the adjournment yesterday scores of delegates were in receipt of dispatches, the majority of them from the east and west, urging and in some cases



THE NEW COMMANDER.

demanding that the encampment should declare itself in no uncertain way on the right of the negroes to meet the southern whites on an equal basis.

By a unanimous vote it was decided to proceed to nominations for commander-in-chief. When the roll of states was called Wisconsin nominated A. G. Weissert, Ohio nominated Gen. S. H. Hurst, New York John Palmer and California William R. Smedberg. Gen. Hurst withdrew and on the first ballot Palmer received 372 votes, Weissert 230, Smedberg 177. On the third ballot Palmer was elected.

Capt. John Palmer was born on Staten Island, N. Y., March 22, 1842. His first army service was in the Ninety-first New York volunteers. He enlisted September 1, 1861, and remained with the regiment until it was mustered out July 3, 1865. He was a participant in all its engagements and was badly wounded at Five Forks.

Henry M. Duffield, of Detroit, was chosen senior vice-commander; T. S. Clarkson, of Nebraska, junior vice-commander; S. B. Payne, of Florida, chaplain, and R. T. Stephenson, of Connecticut, surgeon-general.

Two reports were presented upon the question of separate departments for colored veterans in Louisiana and Mississippi, and after a lively debate the majority report, which was against division, was adopted by a large majority. This was considered a great victory for the colored veterans.

OTHER GATHERINGS.
DETROIT, Mich., Aug. 7.—A new national organization with the title, "Comrades of the Battle Field," has been established. Its membership is to be limited to veterans who were under the fire of the enemy not less than ninety days, or who were wounded and disabled from further services within that period. George E. Dalton, of St. Louis, was elected first major-general commanding.

The national convention of the ex-prisoners of war adopted the draft of a bill to be presented to the next session of congress in behalf of soldiers who were in prison for sixty days or more providing they shall receive two dollars every day of their confinement. They also adopted resolutions strongly denouncing the proposed encampment of the blue and the gray in Chicago during the world's fair.

The sixteenth annual union of the United States veteran signal corps shows a membership of 512. At a business session the reports of officers and committees were received and new officers and committees elected as follows: President, L. R. Fortescue, of Philadelphia; secretary, treasurer, Charles DeWitt Marsh, Boston; historian, S. Willard Brown, Boston; monument committee, J. F. Dwyer, of Amsterdam, N. Y.; chairman William Wise, of Lynn, Mass.; J. B. Foraker, of Ohio, H. S. Taft, of Providence, R. I., and A. R. Capron, of Stillwater. The latter committee raised \$1,000 by subscription from those present toward erecting a monument to the United States veteran signal corps.

A KANSAS LADY HONORED.
DETROIT, Mich., Aug. 7.—The fifth national convention of the ladies of the G. A. R. yesterday received the fraternal greetings of the G. A. R. encampment and elected their officers for the coming year. National president, Mrs. R. J. Cartledge, of Kansas; senior vice-president, Mrs. Alice Bishop, of Massachusetts; junior vice-president, Mrs. Nettie Sanford Chapin, of Iowa; treasurer, Mrs. Anna Gubb, of New Jersey; chaplain, Mrs. Alonzo Page, of Illinois.

A BANQUET.
DETROIT, Mich., Aug. 7.—Last evening a banquet was tendered by the citizens of Detroit to the officers and delegates of the G. A. R. encampment. Gen. R. A. Alger presided. After an elaborate menu had been discussed Col. Henry M. Duffield delivered an address of welcome.

THE CLOSURE.

The Twenty-fifth National Encampment of the G. A. R. Ends—The New Council of Administration—Women's Relief Corps Officers.

DETROIT, Mich., Aug. 8.—The national encampment closed yesterday. The quartermaster's report showed the finances to be in good condition. The per capita tax was reduced from three to two cents, and the new officers were installed.

The national council of administration of G. A. R. has been selected as follows: Alabama, A. W. Folgyham, Birmingham; Arizona, W. Christy, Phoenix; Arkansas, Isaac C. Parker, Fort Smith; California, Magnus Tall, Los Gatos; Colorado and Wyoming, John B. Cooke, Greeley; Connecticut, John C. Clark, New Haven; Delaware, William J. Blackburn, Wilmington; Florida, J. D. Hazard, Eustis; Georgia, Alfred Gutian, Augusta; Idaho, George L. Shoup, Salmon City; Illinois, H. S. Deitrich, Chicago; Indiana, Charles H. Meyerhoff, Evansville; Iowa, L. B. Raymond, Hampton; Kansas, J. D. Barber, Girard; Kentucky, J. H. Browning, Louisville; Louisiana and Mississippi, Charles K. Lincoln, New Orleans; Maine, Washington Cushing, Foxcroft; Maryland, Alfred S. Cooper, Baltimore; Massachusetts, William H. Olin, Boston; Michigan, B. F. Graves, Ann Arbor; Missouri, J. B. Milner, Springfield; Montana, Patrick S. Fisk, Helena; Nebraska, John H. Erhardt, Canton; New Hampshire, R. J. Clark, Conway; New Jersey, M. K. Kinsey, Camden; New Mexico, Philip Mothershill, Eagle; New York, R. F. Kniff, Saratoga; North Dakota, W. H. Winchester, Ohio, E. S. Grant, Middleport; Oklahoma, C. D. Meanger, Oklahoma City; Oregon, D. B. Tuttle, Portland; Pennsylvania, William McClelland, Potomac; A. G. Hutton, Washington; Rhode Island, Henry C. Luther, Providence; South Dakota, E. W. Caldwell, Sioux Falls; Tennessee, W. J. Smith, Memphis; Texas, Dr. D. C. Stoddard, Houston; Utah, C. O. Fairworth, Salt Lake; Vermont, D. J. Safford, Morrisville; Virginia, W. H. Aspinwall, Morton; Washington and Alaska, Frank C. Lendennin, Tacoma; West Virginia, C. W. Hart, Buchanan; Wisconsin, E. A. Shore, Ashland; Indian territory, Robert W. Hill, Muskogee.

WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS OFFICERS.

DETROIT, Mich., Aug. 8.—The Woman's Relief corps convention was yesterday morning occupied with committee reports. Officers were elected in the afternoon as follows: National president, Mrs. Sue A. Sanders, Delaware, Ill.; senior vice-president, Margaret R. E. Wiggins, Sabetha, Kan.; junior vice-president, Mary Lyle Reynolds, Covington, Ky.; treasurer, Amelia A. Chaffney, Detroit, Mich.; chaplain, Miss Clara Barton, Washington.

DUN'S REPORT.

While Business at Many Points is Disappointing, the Feeling of Confidence Increases.

NEW YORK, Aug. 8.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly report of trade says:

While business in many lines is disappointing, the feeling of confidence distinctly increases. The belief increases that the country will be able to sell such vast quantities of grain abroad, and draw so heavily upon foreign supplies of capital that all home industries will be greatly stimulated. Though at some northern points money markets are tight, supplies at western centers are adequate for legitimate business and mere speculation gets less help than usual. Depression in some great industries continues and is real, but may be traced to causes obviously not permanent. Thus the iron manufacturer is much set back by inability of railroads to make purchases because they fail to negotiate securities. Cotton manufacture is retarded by the extraordinary fall in the price of cotton and consequent losses on goods made from material purchased early in the past year, but still there is a fairly large demand and at some reduction in prices most goods are moving freely. At Philadelphia in most trades there is much complaint of slow collections.

Financial prospects have not changed, and though money on call is cheap commercial loans are made with caution. Large failures have occurred, but none threatening financial disturbance. The tone abroad is less strained and the bank of France has gained gold largely, but pressure in Europe must result if needs for breadstuffs are as large as are supposed. Foreign imports of merchandise in New York in July fall 19 per cent. below the year, while the exports largely increase. The demand for money to move crops begins to be felt by many banks.

Killed at the Crossing.

SENECA, Kan., Aug. 8.—About 8 o'clock last evening as the passenger train was approaching the city it struck a carriage of people at the Sisson crossing, two miles east.

A. H. Burnett and Miss Frances Fuller were killed outright.

Mrs. P. P. Fuller was seriously, though it is thought not fatally, injured, and Mrs. George Firstenberg and her two little children, aged 2 and 4 years respectively, were seriously injured.

The carriage was broken to atoms, but the horses were not hurt.

There is a deep curve near the crossing and the train could not be seen from the carriage before the accident occurred.

The victims are all prominent people of this city. Mr. Burnett was one of the pioneers and one of the builders of the city.